

REMARKS / ARGUMENTS

Claims 2-4, 6-12, 14-18 and 23-38 remain pending in this application. Claims 1, 5, 13 and 19-22 have been canceled without prejudice or disclaimer.

Priority

Applicants appreciate the Examiner's acknowledgment of the claim for priority and safe receipt of the priority document.

35 U.S.C. §§102 and 103

Claim 5 stands rejected under 35 U.S.C. §102(b) as being anticipated by Nishizawa et al (U.S. Pub. No. 2001/0011766). Claims 13 and 19 stand rejected under 35 U.S.C. §102(b) as being anticipated by Jacobs et al (U.S. Patent No. 4,811,082). Claim 1 stands rejected under 35 U.S.C. §103(a) as being unpatentable over Farooq et al (U.S. Patent No. 6,178,082) in view of Patel et al (U.S. Patent No. 6,900,991). Claims 37 and 38 stand rejected under 35 U.S.C. §103(a) as being unpatentable over Farooq et al as applied to claim 1 in view of Hofstee et al (U.S. Pub. No. 2002/0074668). Claims 13, 19 and 20 stand rejected under 35 U.S.C. §103(a) as being unpatentable over Farooq et al in view of Patel et al. Claims 21 and 22 stand rejected under 35 U.S.C. §103(a) as being unpatentable over Farooq et al in view of Patel et al as applied to claims 19 and 20 and further in view of Park

et al (U.S. Patent No. 6,642,610). Claim 22 stands rejected under 35 U.S.C. §103(a) as being unpatentable over Jacobs et al in view of Park. Reconsideration of the rejections is requested for the following reasons.

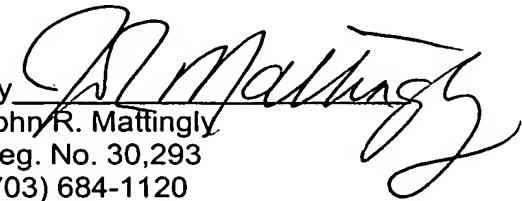
Claims 1, 5, 13 and 19-22 have been canceled without prejudice or disclaimer. Claims 2, 6, 23 and 35 have been amended to put them in independent form, including all of the limitations of the respective base claims from they depend. Further, claim 37 has been amended to change its dependency to claim 35. The remainder of the rejected claims are dependent claims that depend from an allowable base claim or intermediate claim. In view of the foregoing, therefore, the rejections under 35 U.S.C. §§102(b) and 103(a) have been rendered moot and can be withdrawn.

Conclusion

In view of the foregoing, Applicants respectfully requests that a timely Notice of Allowance be issued in this case.

Respectfully submitted,

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